Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: In the light of that, I may say, Sir, that we are not satisfied with the dispssal of cases and British India is not going to be our standard in the matter. With regard to the answer given by the Hon'ble Member for Revenue I submit that that statement is not correct. I can point out or if you will take pains to study papers you can yourself find out that simple appeals have been adjourned for a dozen times, adjournment for want of time or this or that, not for any fault of the party or his advocate.

Mr. M. Sivarama Menon *(Advocate-General)*: The High Court will certainly bring it to the notice of the Government in their notes of inspection and they adopt a very rigorous policy in regard to this matter.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: How many times cases of a simple nature have been adjourned more than 6 times and more than 10 times? I will bring a question like that in the next session. I submit that the Hon'ble Member for Law has stated that there will be strict scrutiny in the matter and in spite of that we can also give suggestions to see that the dispensation of justice is sufficiently brisked up.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri)*: May I know whether in the reviews of the High Court any case of unnecessary adjournment has been subjected to.

Mr. M. Sivarama Menon *(Advocate-General)*: There are reviews every year.

PERCENTAGE OF LITERACY—TALUK WAR

60. Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) what is the percentage of literacy in each of the Taluks of the State as per the last Census;

(*b*) how does it compare with the percentage as per the census of 1931?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction)*:

(*a*) Statement A appended.

(*b*) Favourably. Statement B showing the percentage of literacy according to the 1931 Census is also appended.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: With regard to the Chittur Taluk the percentage of literacy as per the Census of 1931 is 15 per cent and now I am glad to note it is 22 per cent. Are the Government satisfied with the progress that is made from 15 to 22.

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction)*: That is a matter of opinion. But considering the usual difficulties which we come across in the Chittur Taluk, I think it is quite satisfactory. I can't say that we cannot do better. I hope in future the progress will be greater.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: With regard to the methods that the Government had been pursuing for the last so many years for bringing in as many students of school going age as possible into the neighbouring school, various methods have been suggested at different times. Were not all those applied in Chittur Taluk during the last ten years between the Census of 1931 and 1941? All methods usually mentioned by Government.

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction)*: The methods must be suitable to the local condition and I can realise what the Hon'ble Member is driving at, namely with regard to the question of free compulsory education. For the information of this House in reply I may state that I was the Chairman of the committee which went round to elicit information on the question of primary education Bill and we got a good set-back from the Chittur people. The majority did not want compulsory primary education. What we do to-day is whenever a request for a new school comes forward immediately it is granted. The minimum strength is not insisted upon for the purpose of grant. As a matter of fact there are schools even now with very small strength. We have been actually sending out teachers from home to home to pursuade parents to send their children to schools.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. എസ്സ്. പണിക്കർ: ചിറ്റൂർ താലൂക്കിൽ കമ്പൽസറി എഡ്യൂക്കേഷൻ ആവശ്യമില്ലെന്നു് അവിടത്തെ ധനവാന്മാരല്ലാത്ത സാധുക്കളും ആരെങ്കിലും പറഞ്ഞിട്ടുണ്ടോ?

റാവു സാഹിബ്ബു് ഐ. എൻ. മേനോൻ: വളരെ ആളുകളും പറഞ്ഞിട്ടുണ്ടു്.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: May I know, Sir, whether in the light of the answer previously given, whether the Government have known that in an area in the Chittur Taluk, namely, Kairady, out of 212 students of school going age within a radii of one and half miles only 70 attend school. I am stating this from the reports prepared, by a responsible officer of the Education Department.

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Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction)*: Government do not wish to deny that in point of primary education there is a certain amount of shyness on the part of parents in the case of some parts of Chittur Taluk. Without meaning any disparagement to any particular community the particular locality is referred to in the question contains a very large percentage of Muslims and there are special difficulties in trying to induce them to go to schools. They have their own economic difficulties. I wish to submit to this House a reply which has been received—almost unique in regard to that subject—that we want the services of our children to look after our farms, and Government could not give them any answer. The reasons are more economic than Education.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: Are we to take that Government will introduce compulsory education with consent only? I was also a member of that committee as the sponsor of the Bill. Is it the opinion of the Government that compulsion in absolutely needed areas will be introduced only with consent?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction)*: Now that is not the position. The position of the Government is this. They would introduce compulsion if low attendance is the result of parental apathy. If on the other hand the low attendance is due to other causes and not due to parental apathy, they have to see whether other persuasive methods cannot be adopted to bring these children in larger numbers to school. As I stated the other day, personally I am not convinced. Parental apathy is the reason to some. To give only one instance, if we appoint attendance committees and enlist the help of local men I think it will be possible to increase the attendance in schools in the Chittur Taluk without compulsion.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: I believe Government have come across a paragraph in the report of the late Mr. Sankara Menon, the Census Commissioner of 1931. After giving out these facts he has stated this is a fit case for the introduction of compulsory primary education.

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction)*: I want notice. The Hon'ble Member has got the advantage of having the report but I have not got it. I believe it is absolutely correct.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: Now Sir, it is in a helpful way that the Hon'ble Member for Education has stated that it is due to economic conditions and not a case of wilful negligence. In the Select Committee stage when this was last under discussion you will be pleased to find in the two Taluks of Talappalli and Chittur 107 in the one case and 20 in other, 99 in another, 57 in another, yet 57 in another and 480 in another case of wilful negligence and 408 out of 556 children of school going age—a huge percentage as the result of wilful negligence. My suggestion is Government will be pleased to take the question of introduction of compulsory primary education. Let there be an Act on the Statute Book. It may be applied to suitable areas like this. Out of 550 children of school going age 408 not attending as the result of wilful negligence is something abnormal. In spite of the fact that there are one or two schools in that area to cater to their needs we find the position to be as stated. So it is up to the Government to bring forward a compulsory Primary Education Bill or allow us to a free compulsory education Bill. I make this suggestion to the Government and I leave the suggestion there.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri)*: May I know whether in that backward area we have got a Village School?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction)*: We have a school at Kairadi.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri)*: May I know whether Government are giving inducements to these children?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction)*: The bulk of the children are Muslims. We are giving them all the concessions usually given to Muslims and we are utilising the services of the teachers to go to the homes and persuade the parents to send their children to schools. Only when permission in a matter like this fails, we have got justification for introducing compulsion. I am not quite certain that we have come to that stage. Since we have got a cut motion on this particular issue, I think further discussion may be put off now.

C.M.S. HIGH SCHOOL HEADMASTER—QUALIFICATIONS OF

61. Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) who is the Headmaster of the C.M.S. High School, Trichur;

(*b*) what are his qualifications, general and technical;

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Appendix

(Please see answer to question No. 60)

A. Statement showing percentage of literacy

Taluk		*Persons*	*Males*	*Females*
Cochin-Kanayannur	..	48·3	60·1	36·2
Cranganur	..	38·0	50·5	26·2
Mukundapuram	..	37·6	48·8	27·9
Trichur	..	46·9	58·0	36·6
Talappilly	..	35·0	44·6	26·4
Chittur	..	22·2	31·5	13·3

Statement B

Taluk		*Persons*	*Males*	*Females*
Cochin-Kanayannur	..	33·8	45·0	22·3
Cranganur	..	25·5	36·0	15·1
Mukundapuram	..	25·3	34·8	16·4
Trichur	..	33·0	43·6	23·1
Talappilly	..	24·1	33·0	16·1
Chittur	..	15·0	22·7	7·7

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